

Last message review:

John 8:12,30-32...¹² Then Jesus spoke to them again: ***"I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows Me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life."***...³⁰ As He was saying these things, many believed in Him. ³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, ***"If you continue in My word, you really are My disciples."*** ³² You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

An Authentic, Genuine Follower of Christ will...

Walk in the Light,
Continue in His Word,
Know the Truth (Jesus) &
Live in Freedom (It will set us free).

John 8:30-59...³⁰ As He was saying these things, many believed in Him. ³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, ***"If you continue in My word, you really are My disciples."*** ³² You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³ "We are descendants of Abraham," they answered Him, "and we have never been enslaved to anyone. How can You say, ***'You will become free'?***" ³⁴ Jesus responded, ***"I assure you: Everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin."*** ³⁵ A slave does not remain in the household forever, but a son does remain forever. ³⁶ Therefore, if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. ³⁷ I know you are descendants of Abraham, but you are trying to kill Me because My word is not welcome among you. ³⁸ I speak what I have seen in the presence of the Father; therefore, you do what you have heard from your father." ³⁹ "Our father is Abraham!" they replied. "If you were Abraham's children," Jesus told them, "you would do what Abraham did. ⁴⁰ But now you are trying to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do this! ⁴¹ You're doing what your father does." "We weren't born of sexual immorality," they said. "We have one Father—God." ⁴² Jesus said to them, ***"If God were your Father, you would love Me, because I came from God and I am here. For I didn't come on My own, but He sent Me."*** ⁴³ Why don't you understand what I say? Because you cannot listen to My word. ⁴⁴ You are of your father the Devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and has not stood in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he speaks from his own nature, because he is a liar and the father of liars. ⁴⁵ Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. ⁴⁶ Who among you can convict Me of sin? If I tell the truth, why don't you believe Me? ⁴⁷ The one who is from God listens to God's words. This is why you don't listen, because you are not from God." ⁴⁸ The Jews responded to Him, "Aren't we right in saying that You're a Samaritan and have a demon?" ⁴⁹ "I do not have a demon," Jesus answered. "On the contrary, I honor My Father and you dishonor Me. ⁵⁰ I do not seek My glory; the One who seeks it also judges. ⁵¹ I assure you: If anyone keeps My word, he will never see death—ever!" ⁵² Then the Jews said, "Now we know You have a demon. Abraham died and so did the prophets. You say, ***'If anyone keeps My word, he will never taste death—ever!'***" ⁵³ Are You greater than our father Abraham who died? Even the prophets died. Who do You pretend to be?" ⁵⁴ "If I glorify Myself," Jesus answered, "My glory is nothing. My Father—you say about Him, ***'He is our God'***—He is the One who glorifies Me. ⁵⁵ You've never known Him, but I know Him. If I were to say I don't know Him, I would be a liar like you. But I do know Him, and I keep His word. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham was overjoyed that he would see My day; he saw it and rejoiced." ⁵⁷ The Jews replied, "You aren't 50 years old yet, and You've seen Abraham?" ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, ***"I assure you: Before Abraham was, I AM"*** ⁵⁹ At that, they picked up stones to throw at Him. But Jesus was hidden and went out of the temple complex.

John 8:58...⁵⁸ *Jesus said to them, “I assure you: Before Abraham was, I AM”*

Romans 8:1-2 ...*There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.*

Freedom from Fear

⁵¹ *I assure you: If anyone keeps My word, he will never see death—ever!*

Freedom from Anger & Resentment

Freedom from Guilt

Freedom from the Expectations of Others

Freedom from Lies

Freedom from Sin & Selfish Desires

Freedom to Live for Christ

1 Corinthians 15:57...*But thanks be to God, who give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ*

The 7 Steps of Freedom in Christ are:

- (1). **Renounce** the lies and attacks of evil and temptations.
Repent of any evil activities or involvement .
- (2). **Acknowledge** that we have all sinned and **Ask** God to **Forgive** you of your sins and **Offer Forgiveness** to others who have wronged you.
- (3). **Accept** the truth that you are a Child of God and **Believe** you are bought with the precious ‘*Blood of the Lamb*’ and stand on the Holy Word of God.
- (4) **Submit** to God and ‘*Seek first His Kingdom*’ and **Accept** the authority that God has placed over you.
- (5) **Humble** yourself and put no confidence in the ‘flesh’,
Resist any pride, prejudice or bigotry.
- (6) **Choose** to life in the freedom of Christ responsibly.
Claim the blessings of being a child of God and *reject* Satan’s accusations.
- (7) **Commit** to abiding in Christ and letting “*the mind of Christ dwell richly in you*”.
Continue in walk in the truth of God’s Word and be an ‘*Authentic & Genuine Follower of Christ*’

(Adapted from Neil Anderson’s “*Bondage Breaker*” . Harvest House Press.2000.)

Colossians 2:8 ...*See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.*

2 Corinthians 10:5... *We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.*

Hymn – O For A thousand Tongues to Sing (Charles Wesley)

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of His grace!

4. He breaks the power of canceled sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean;
His blood availed for me.

Statements of Truth

1. I recognize that there is only one true and living God who exists as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is worthy of all honor, praise, and glory as the One who made all things and holds all things together. *(See Exodus 20:2,3; Colossians 1:16)*
2. I recognize that Jesus Christ is the Messiah, the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us. I believe that He came to destroy the works of the devil, and that He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public display of them, having triumphed over them. *(See John 1:1, 14; Colossians 2:15; 1 John 3:8.)*
3. I believe that God demonstrated His own love for me in that while I was still a sinner, Christ died for me. I believe that He has delivered me from the domain of darkness and transferred me to His kingdom, and in Him I have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. *(See Romans 5:8; Colossians 1:13, 14.)*
4. I believe that I am now a child of God and that I am seated with Christ in the heavenlies. I believe that I was saved by the grace of God through faith, and that it was a gift and not a result of any works on my part. *(See Ephesians 2:6, 8, 9; 1 John 3:1-3.)*
5. I choose to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. I put no confidence in the flesh, for the weapons of warfare are not of the flesh but are divinely powerful for the destruction of strongholds. I put on the full armor of God. I resolve to stand firm in my faith and resist the evil one. *(See 2 Corinthians 10:4; Ephesians 6:10-20; Philippians 3:3.)*
6. I believe that apart from Christ I can do nothing, so I declare my complete dependence on Him. I choose to abide in Christ in order to bear much fruit and glorify my Father. I announce to Satan that Jesus is my Lord. I reject any and all counterfeit gifts or works of Satan in my life. *(See John 15:5, 8; 1 Corinthians 12:3.)*
7. I believe that the truth will set me free and that Jesus is the truth. If He sets me free, I will be free indeed. I recognize that walking in the light is the only path of true fellowship with God and man. Therefore, I stand against all of Satan's deception by taking every thought captive in obedience to Christ. I declare that the Bible is the only authoritative standard for truth and life. *(See John 8:32, 36; 14:6; 2 Corinthians 10:5; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 John 1:3-7.)*
8. I choose to present my body to God as a living and holy sacrifice and the members of my body as instruments of righteousness. I choose to renew my mind by the living Word of God in order that I may prove that the will of God is good, acceptable, and perfect. I put off the old self with its evil practices and put on the new self. I declare myself to be a new creation in Christ. *(See Romans 6:13; 12:1, 2; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Colossians 3:9, 10 NI V.)*
9. By faith, I choose to be filled with the Spirit so that I can be guided into all truth. I choose to walk by the Spirit so that I will not carry out the desires of the flesh. I renounce all selfish goals and choose the ultimate goal of love. I choose to obey the two greatest commandments: to love the Lord my God with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love my neighbor as myself *(See John 16:13; Galatians 5:16; Ephesians 5:18; Matthew 22:37-39; 1 Timothy 1:5.)*
10. I believe that the Lord Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth, and He is the head over all rule and authority. I am complete in Him. I believe that Satan and his demons are subject to me in Christ since I am a member of Christ's body. Therefore, I obey the command to submit to God and resist the devil, and I command Satan in the name of Jesus Christ to leave my presence. *(See Matthew 28:18; Ephesians 1:19-23; Colossians 2:10; James 4:7.)*